

## Message Text

SECRET

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72

ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /031 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 208677

EXDIS, TOSEC 36

E.O. 11652 - GDS

TAGS: PBOR, MOPS, XF, NL

SUBJECT: GON'S VIEWS ON NATO'S RESPONSIVENESS TO THE  
MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT

REF: THE HAGUE 4637

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SISCO FROM DAVIES

1. THE FOLLOWING IS PROPOSED REPLY TO THE HAGUE'S 4637.

IF YOU CONCUR, PLEASE SEND TO THE HAGUE AND INFO TO THE  
DEPARTMENT.

QUOTE:

2. WE AGREE THAT IT WILL BE USEFUL TO KEEP GON GENERALLY  
INFORMED OF OUR EVOLVING POLICY THINKING SO AS TO  
ENSURE COOPERATION WITHIN THE RANKS OF THE ALLIANCE.  
ACCORDINGLY, YOU MAY DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING POINTS IN  
GIVING FONMIN AN ORAL BRIEFING.

A. WE MOST APPRECIATIVE OF GON'S OFFER TO BE HELPFUL  
WITHIN THE ALLIANCE.

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B. OUR OBJECTIVE HAS BEEN, AND REMAINS, THE ENDING

OF THE WAR IN CONDITIONS CONDUCTIVE TO NEGOTIATIONS FOR  
A PEACE SETTLEMENT. MERE CEASEFIRE AND CONTINUED STAND-  
OFF WOULD CONTINUE EXPLOSIVE POTENTIAL NEAR EAST INTO

YEARS AHEAD.

C. SINCE THE OUTBREAK OF FIGHTING ON OCTOBER 6, WE  
HAVE MAINTAINED CONSTANT COMMUNICATION WITH THE ARABS  
AND ISRAEL AND VARIOUS MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL,  
INCLUDING THE SOVIET UNION IN AN EFFORT TO FIND THE BASIS  
FOR A CEASEFIRE. WE HAVE BRIEFED ALLIES ON EAST-WEST  
ASPECTS OF SOVIET INVOLVEMENT. AT THE OUTSET, WE  
REQUESTED SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING IN BELIEF UN COULD  
NOT STAND ASIDE IN FACE MAJOR HOSTILITIES IN THIS  
SENSITIVE ARENA. WE ADVANCED GENERAL PROPOSITIONS AS  
BASIS FOR DISCUSSION INCLUDING SUGGESTION THAT LEAST  
DAMAGING OUTCOME WOULD BE A CEASEFIRE WITH BOTH SIDES  
RETURNING TO THE POSITIONS THEY HELD PRIOR TO OUTBREAK  
OF FIGHTING. SUBSEQUENTLY, WITH PROLONGATION OF  
FIGHTING, WE EXPLORED THE POSSIBILITY OF A CEASEFIRE ON  
OTHER BASES.

D. IN CONTINUATION OF OUR INTENSIVE EFFORTS TO  
FIND ACCEPTABLE FORMULA FOR CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES, THE  
SECRETARY HAS TRAVELED TO MOSCOW FOR DIRECT DISCUSSIONS  
AT SOVIET SUGGESTION.

E. THE MASSIVE SOVIET RESUPPLY EFFORT RAISED MOST  
SERIOUS PROBLEM AND POSED THREAT OF DESTABILIZING THE  
MILITARY BALANCE. WE HAD HOPED THAT BY MUTUAL EXAMPLE  
BOTH WE AND THE SOVIETS COULD BE GOVERNED BY RESTRAINT  
IN PROVIDING FURTHER ARMS TO TWO SIDES. GIVEN THIS  
SITUATION, WE HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO BEGIN A  
RESUPPLY EFFORT IN ORDER TO PRESERVE A BALANCE CONDUCTIVE  
TO NEGOTIATIONS AND TO AVOID SITUATION WHICH WOULD HAVE  
REWARDED SOVIET ADVENTURISM.

F. WE ARE DEEPLY ENGAGED IN AN EFFORT TO CRYSTALLIZE  
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A CONSENSUS ON HOW TO BRING ABOUT A CEASEFIRE THAT WILL  
LEAD TO NEGOTIATIONS ON A PEACE SETTLEMENT.

G. AS SITUATION EVOLVES, WE WILL WISH TO STAY IN  
TOUCH WITH OUR ALLIES TO ENSURE THE ESSENTIAL UNDER-  
STANDING AND COORDINATION AMONG THOSE WHO ARE DESIROUS  
OF ACHIEVING AN ENDURING SETTLEMENT. UNQUOTE. RUSH

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